

missed rollcall votes 229, 230, and 231, for family reasons. Had I been here, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall 229; "aye" on rollcall 230; and "aye" on rollcall 231. I request that my comments be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD at the appropriate section.

INTRODUCING THE TAX INCENTIVES TO ENCOURAGE RECYCLING (TIER) ACT

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Tax Incentives to Encourage Recycling (TIER) Act, legislation to address the problem of electronic waste in this country.

Electronic waste is a growing problem. Computer capability doubles every 18 months. This means that individual consumers and businesses must replace their computer equipment more often now than ever.

In 2000, I introduced legislation that has since become law to refurbish old computers for libraries and classrooms. However, often times the donated equipment is too outdated to be refurbished and must be thrown away. This equipment has small amounts of mercury and lead and increasing quantities of it end up in our landfills.

To address this growing problem, some states, including my home state of California, have introduced laws mandating user fees. These hidden taxes only serve to further widen the digital divide. By increasing the cost, more people will be unable to afford computers for their homes. This is unacceptable. As elected representatives, we should be working to increase access to computers and the internet, not putting them further out of reach for many Americans.

My legislation, the TIER Act, addresses the problem of e-waste by giving tax credits to computer manufacturers that implement recycling programs. The primary expense in computer recycling is the transport of the equipment from a home or business to the recycling center. This legislation will provide the incentive to facilitate the transport of the old equipment to a recycling center.

I would like to thank my colleague, Mr. CANTOR, for cosponsoring this important legislation. By providing incentives for recycling, we can keep the costs of computers reasonable and protect our environment.

RECOGNIZING ROB AND SHERRI VINES

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Rob and Sherri Vines for their life-long contributions to the Congregation Emanu El and the Inland Empire community of Southern California.

Rob and Sherri Vines have been active and loyal members of their congregation for over 30 years. Exemplifying the best in humani-

tarian leadership, they continue to earn respect and admiration from people of all walks of life. Mrs. Vines serves the congregation in numerous capacities, including teaching at the School of Jewish Living and serving three terms as Sisterhood President in the Inland Empire. She is also a member of the congregation's executive committee of community service, having coordinated numerous events for San Bernardino County residents.

Robert Vines, a workers' compensation attorney, has been a member of the California State Bar since 1973, serving as the Deputy District Attorney for San Bernardino County from 1973-1975. In addition, he proudly serves as President of the United Jewish Welfare Fund of San Bernardino County. He is President of the Greater Inland Empire's Applicants' Attorney Association. He also serves in various offices with the Board of Governors of the California Applicants' Attorney Association. Mr. Vines has earned countywide recognition as one of the top ten attorneys in the Inland Empire.

Rob and Sherri Vines received the Rabbi Norman F. Feldheim Award as a testament to all the hard work, love and energy they have exemplified throughout their lives. This award memorializes Rabbi Feldheim's values of unconditional love and loyalty to one's synagogue, service to the community, and a character imbued with humility and loving kindness to others.

I salute Rob and Sherri Vines on the occasion of being awarded the Rabbi Norman F. Feldheim Award and wish them continued success and prosperity.

CONGRATULATING MISS OLIVIA EVANS UPON RECEIVING THE SPIRIT OF WOMEN FOUNDATION'S REGIONAL SPIRIT OF WOMEN AWARD

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take a few moments today to recognize an extraordinary young woman from Nashville, Olivia Evans.

Olivia is 13 years old and was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes three years ago. Rather than allowing this disease to defeat her, Olivia has become a tireless advocate for diabetes research and the search for a cure. I first met Olivia in my Nashville office this spring and was impressed from the start by both her courage and charisma.

I am proud to say that her advocacy has also recently won her wider recognition. Olivia was just named the winner of the Spirit of Women Foundation's regional youth Spirit of Women Award for her work on behalf of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. This award is generally reserved for young women aged 14 and older, which makes Olivia's achievement all the more remarkable. In addition, Olivia was one of only two Tennessee delegates to the 2003 Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Children's Congress, which came to Washington to raise awareness about diabetes research among national policymakers.

Type 1 diabetes currently afflicts 1.3 million Americans, and there are 13,000 new diag-

noses of juvenile diabetes every year. Olivia is fighting hard to educate all of us on the importance of funding research and finding a cure. The sooner we find a solution, the sooner we can ensure that Olivia will grow to lead a life that is unburdened by the complications of diabetes.

I applaud the Spirit of Women Foundation for recognizing this remarkable young woman, and I congratulate Olivia on her achievement. I call on my colleagues to further honor Olivia and the thousands of American children like her who live with diabetes by supporting all efforts to find a cure now.

IN MEMORY OF SGT. 1ST CLASS TROY "LEON" MIRANDA

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker I rise today to honor Sgt. First Class Troy "Leon" Miranda, who died on May 20, 2004, in Iraq. Leon was 44 years old and of Wickes, AR, part of my Congressional District. I wish to recognize his life and achievements.

Those who knew Leon well say he was destined to be a soldier from an early age. He signed on with the Army Reserve in 1984. In Iraq, a staff sergeant in the National Guard, he served as a commander of his unit, specializing in combat warfare, germ warfare, and chemical warfare. Leon was deployed last October in large part due to his specialized training.

The Miranda family received a Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and Arkansas Distinguished Service Medal on Leon's behalf. Leon lost his life while making the ultimate sacrifice to serve our country, and I will be forever grateful to him for his courageous spirit.

Leon gave his life to serve our country and will forever be remembered as a brother, son, hero, and friend. My deepest condolences go out to his parents, Bobby and Carlos, and his brother, Phillip. I know Leon was proud of his service to the U.S. Army and to our country. He will be missed by his family, fellow soldiers, and all those who knew him well.

AMADOR COUNTY 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commemorate the 150th birthday of Amador County. June 14, 2004 marks the Sesquicentennial Anniversary of the incorporation of a county rich in history and culture.

This land named Amador was once home to Miwuk and possibly other Native American tribes. In time, non-Indian trappers and explorers traversed this land, ushering in a new era. As early as 1843, hired hands for John Sutter worked the land then known as Pine Woods, to manufacture items needed at Sutter's Fort. Later, families of the hired hands came to settle. After gold was discovered in January 1848, the area was flooded with gold seekers.